

R A N D Y W H I T I N G

MARCH 29, 2012

2 CORINTHIANS 5:17

The Holy Scriptures tell us that Christians are brand new people on the inside. The Holy Spirit gives us new life, and we are not the same anymore. We are not reformed, rehabilitated, or reeducated---but are new creations, living in vital union with Christ. We are not merely turning over a new leaf, we are beginning a new life under a new Master.

Recently I've had cause to reflect on this truth. A person I know is getting off "paper" soon and planning on "celebrating" the event by going bar-hopping with a large group to get smashed. Years ago I would have totally concurred with the reasoning and joined him if I could. In fact, I can remember clearly a time when all thought about when looking forward to my release was which fleshly pleasure to partake of first.

However, now it seems to me ill-advised to celebrate life by using our new found freedom as a license to do whatever brings us pleasure. The focus can no longer be solely on ourselves! Rather, I believe it would be wiser, and more beneficial to everyone, to do those things which please others, especially our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. And thank God that through faith and the power of the Holy Spirit we have the ability to do so. Praise God!